POL 14 VIETS

Department of State TELEGRAM

1295

CONFIDENTIAL

EXCISE

10-3-67 Saigon 7532

PAGE 01 SAIGON 07532 031315Z

53
ACTION EA-19

INFO GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04,
DOD 01, SP 02, SS 35, SAH 03, SAL 01, AID 30, IO 21, EUR 25, RSR 01,
NSAE 00, /185 W

R 031015Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8055
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2679
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
AMCONSUL DANANG 1061
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4438

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A.C.D.C. MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Lynberg DATE 1/26/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 7532

SUBJECT: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: PHU BON

REF: SAIGON 6818

1. OF THE 10 PERSONS WHO ORIGINALLY FILE FOR THE LOWER HOUSE FROM PHU BON (WHICH HAS ONE VIETNAMESE AND ONE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MONTAGNARD SEAT), FOUR HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED. REMAINING IN THE RACE ARE THREE VIETNAMESE AND THREE SVN MONTAGNARDS.

DECLASSIFIED BY AID/W

2. THE FOLLOWING ARE CANDIDATES FOR THE VIETNAMESE SEAT (MINOR ERRORS IN BIO DATA REPORTED REFTEL ARE CORRECTED BELOW):

A. NGUYEN VAN CHINH, B. OCTOBER 28, 1937 IN PHU YEN, CATHOLIC; 1954-64, TEACHER AND LATER VIS EMPLOYEE IN

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 07532 031315Z

PHU YEN; 1964-65, DEPUTY CHIEF OF VIS IN PHU BON; 1966 TO PRESENT, CHIEF, VIS, PHU BON. AMERICAN ADVISORS CONSIDER CHINH AN ENGERETIC AND HONEST CIVIL SERVANT.

B. HA THE DUYET, B. JANUARY 6, 1939, THAI BINH, NVN, BUDDHIST; FORMER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CHIEF, PHU BON; FORMER DEPUTY DISTRICT CHIEF, PHU TUC DISTRICT, PHU BON; PRESENTLY AN EMPLOYEE OF MICH, SAIGON.

C. HO TONG MINH, B. NOVEMBER 1, 1930, THUA THIEN, BUDDHIST. FOR MANY YEARS A BUSINESSMAN IN THE HIGHLANDS; MOVED TO PHU BON IN 1962 WHERE HE WAS ELECTED IN 1965 TO THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, OF WHICH HE IS NOW SECRETARY; PHU BON'S LEADING ENTREPRENEUR AND CONTRACTOR; CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF POLICE CHIEF AND OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS; KNOWN AS A SHREWD

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 7532 C O N F I D E N T I A L
BUSINESSMAN.

3. THE FOLLOWING ARE COMPETING FOR THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MONTAGNARD SEAT:

A. RCOM ANHOT, B. MARCH 15, 1938, PHU BON, JARAI, ANIMIST; FORMER STUDENT AT LYCEE YERSIN IN DALAT; GRADUATE OF ONE YEAR COURSE AT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION, SAIGON; PRESENTLY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CHIEF, PHU BON.

B. NAY PHER, B. MAY 10, 1940, PHU BON, JARAI, CATHOLIC. FORMER STUDENT AT LYCEE YERSIN, DALAT; 1962 GRADUATE OF BAN ME THUOT NORMAL SCHOOL; 1963, TEACHER IN KONTUM; 1964-67, TEACHER AT HAU BON PRIMARY SCHOOL, PHU BON; NEPHEW OF NAY MOUL, PHU BON DEPUTY PROVINCE CHIEF FOR MONTAGNARD AFFAIRS.

C. (MISS) RCOM MY HUE, B. MARCH 13, 1942, PHU BON, JARAI. PRESENTLY EMPLOYEE OF SPECIAL COMMISSARIAT FOR

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 07532 031315Z

PAGE 4 RUMJIR 7532 C O N F I D E N T I A L
MONTAGNARD AFFAIRS, SAIGON: FIRST MONTAGNARD WOMAN TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL OFFICE.

4. MOST OBSERVERS PREDICT THAT RCOM ANHOT WILL WIN MONTAGNARD SEAT. CONTEST FOR VIETNAMESE SEAT IS SEEN AS RACE BETWEEN NGUYEN VAN CHINH AND HO TONG MINH, WITH CHINH ENJOYING SLIGHT EDGE. RCOM ANHOT AND CHINH ARE COLLABORATING (IN THIS ELECTION VIETNAMESE CAST BALLOTS FOR MINORITY SEATS AND VIE-VERSA). WITH 75 PERCENT OF PHU BON ELECTORATE MONTAGNARD, ANHOT'S SUPPORT COULD PROVIDE MARGIN OF CITORY TO CHINH. ANHOT IS ALSO CLOSE FRIEND OF KSOR ROT, PHU BON MONTAGNARD DEPUTY IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND ONLY MONTAGNARD TO BE ELECTED TO UPPER HOUSE. ROT WON ON FARMER-WORKER-SOLDIER LIST OF TRAN VAN DON WHO HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN LINING UP FOLLOWERS AMONG CANDIDATES FOR THE LOWER HOUSE RACE. BOTH CHINH AND ANHOT SAY THAT IF ELECTED THEY WILL ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH OTHER DON SUPPORTERS IN LOWER HOUSE.

5. THREE ARVN OFFICERS, LT. DINH VAN CHUC, LT. TRAN VAN LIEN, AND CAPTAIN DAO BA NGOC, FILED AS CANDIDATES FROM PHU BON

PAGE 5 RUMJIR 7532 C O N F I D E N T I A L
BUT NONE RECEIVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE ARMY AND WERE HENCE DISQUALIFIED. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE ALTHOUGH SUPPORTED BY PROVINCE CHIEF, WERE APPARENTLY STYMIED BY II CORPS COMMANDING GENERAL VINH LOC. FOURTH CANDIDATE, PHAM THANH AN, HAS ALSO BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE RACE IN PHU BON.

6. FAILURE TO QUALIFY OF SECOND LT. TRAN VAN LIEN IS WORTHY OF COMMENT. LIEN, B. JUNE 11, 1938 IN QUANG BINH, NVN, CATHOLIC, IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SAIGON. 1960-6 KIEN WAS A TEACHER IN BAN ME THUOT AND NHA TRANG; 1962-64, INTERPRETER FOR COASTAL SECURITY SERVICE IN DANANG; MOBILIZED IN 1965, LIEN NOW SERVES AS PSY-WAR OFFICER IN PHU BON SECTOR HEADQUARTERS. LIEN HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN CATHOLIC YOUTH AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES IN PHU BON AND IS AN ADMIER OF NGUYEN GAI HIEN, WHOSE CATHOLIC GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SAIGON 07532 031315Z

UPPER HOUSE LIST WON. LIEN IS AN OCCASSIONAL CONTRIBUTOR
TO THE CATHOLIC DAILY NEWSPAPER, XAY DUNG. [ ] IS ONE OF MOST ABLE AND ASTUTE
OF THOSE WHO FILED FROM PHU BON. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF,
LIEN TOOK HIS DISQUALIFICATION STOICALLY. REMARKING THAT

b-1
ed

PAGE 6 RUMJIR 7532 C O N F I D E N T I A L
THE LAST YEAR HAS SEEN MUCH IMPROVEMENT IN THE PLITICAL
SCENE IN VIET-NAM, LIEN NOTED RUEFULLY THAT WHAT HE CON-
SIDERS THE ARBITRARY ACT OF VINH LOC IN REFUSING HIM LEAVE
OF ABSENCE PROVIDES "SAD PROOF THAT THERE IS STILL MUCH
TO BE DONE." BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED